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August 25, 2003

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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SEP 16 2003

GROUP 3600

Attention: Mr. Brian Glessner, Patent Examiner

Re: Patent application No. 09/976,563 entitled "Building Wall Humidity Control System"

Dear Sir:

In response to your office action of June 11th, 2003, this is to inform you that in our opinion, the objections that you have raised to the above U.S. patent application are not valid. It appears that your latest objections are now focused on possible conflicts with Masuno.

I agree with you that in Masuno, the exterior wall cavity *appears* to be connected to the interior partition wall cavity. Without a proper plan view, it is hard to tell but in any event, from the more important point of view of how his system functions, it's a mute and irrelevant point. As designed, there is virtually *no* air flow in Masuno's exterior walls for the simple reason that there are no interior air intakes in the exterior walls and therefore, effectively all of the air will automatically flow from the interior space, through the interior partition and be exhausted to the exterior atmosphere by the fan. This leaves the exterior wall "cavity" completely stagnant except of course, for the small amount that might be sucked in from the *exterior* atmosphere through the more porous outer portion of the exterior wall. As I'm sure you can appreciate, this is seriously counterproductive and is precisely what *we* are trying to avoid. Such is the impractical nature of any depressurizing "exhaust" type system such as Masuno's. Our design on the other hand, completely overcomes this defect by utilizing positive and controlled pressurization of the whole exterior wall with dry interior air only. Also on the issue of connectivity, I wish to point out that using standard North American framing methods, the isolation of the interior partition wall cavity to the exterior wall cavity is absolute – it's the only practical way "we" can attach the drywall. Interestingly enough, Masuno could have the same arrangement. As stated earlier, without a proper plan view it's hard to tell but if it were so, this would easily account for the obvious exclusion of "vent space 9" in his exterior wall section.

In response to your question as to why Masuno would not simply place the fan works directly through the exterior wall, I suspect the answer is quite simply this: to avoid the unsightliness and the noise of the fan. Up until very recently, noise associated with small inexpensive fans was a serious problem. In this regard, Masuno's twenty year old design would be quite effective. We solve this aspect of the problem by putting the fan works in the floor space which is far superior because it enables better access for servicing.



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Finally then, in light of all of the above, our position regarding your hypothetical "incorporating" of Tucker into Masuno etc... remains as outlined in paragraph three of our letter to you dated January 14, 2003. Our invention is a clear improvement over these previous patents *as described*. It's a novel application of natural laws or principles that solves a "new" problem that, for whatever reasons, others before me have neglected to resolve or take into account. As Aristotle, the greatest philosopher of all time once put it: "Everything is pretty much known, just not put together." Such is the very nature of invention Mr. Glessner and in my particular case, the history of the "problem" during the past forty years speaks volumes on that score. On a personal note, if you are interested in getting a glimpse as to how and why this "problem" became such a serious one, I strongly recommend you read my book entitled: THE LEAKY CONDO BOONDOGGLE. Availability details are shown on our web site at: www.dextras.com/building.html .

I trust the above is satisfactory and should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call me at any time.

Yours truly,

Ken Dextras, P. Eng.
President